

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET

ORIG :
 UNIT :
 EXT :
 DATE : 8 January 1962

ROUTING	
1	4
2	5
3	6

25X1

TO :
 FROM : DIRECTOR
 CONF : DPD (1-2-3-4-
 INFO :

JAN 1 1962

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PRIORITY

INITIALS

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

ROUTINE

OUT 06972

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TO

CITE

1. INFORMAL POSITION, REFLECTING AT LEAST VIEWS OF
 CONCERNING SA-3 AS FOLLOWS:

25X1

2. NIE 11-4-61 STATES THAT SOVIETS HAVE SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM (SA-3) WHICH WE BELIEVE IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO ENGAGE TARGETS AT VERY LOW ALTITUDES. THIS STATEMENT IS BASED ON PHOTOGRAPHY OF TWO FOUR-POSITION SITES AT KAPUSTIN YAR SAM TEST RANGE FACILITIES. IT HAS NOT BEEN TECHNICALLY CONFIRMED THAT THIS SYSTEM IS A LOW ALTITUDE SYSTEM AS NO EQUIPMENT COULD POSITIVELY BE IDENTIFIED. HOWEVER, THE LOW ALTITUDE FUNCTION APPEARS REASONABLE BECAUSE (A) THERE IS A WESTERN BOMBER THREAT BELOW THE PRESENTLY ESTIMATED MINIMUM ALTITUDE CAPABILITY OF THE SA-2, AND (B) THE TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SITE ITSELF DO NOT APPEAR TO NEGATE THIS FUNCTION.

3. NPIC HAS CALLED THESE SITES SA-3 BECAUSE THEY RESEMBLE ONE OF THE KAPUSTIN YAR FOUR-LAUNCHER SITES. AIR FORCE TDI HAS TARGETED THESE SITES SA-3 AND DESCRIBED THEM AS LOW-LEVEL DEFENSE MISSILE SITES ON BASIS OF THE ESTIMATE WITHOUT ANY QUALIFYING REMARKS.

COORDINATING OFFICERS

RELEASING OFFICER

TOP SECRET

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P R O C E D U R E	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INITIALS

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TO

INFO

CITE

4. OUR INTERPRETATION OF THE DESIGNATION SA-3 IS A THIRD GENERATION
SAM SYSTEM WITH THE MOST LIKELY FUNCTION BEING LOW-ALTITUDE DEFENSE.

END OF MESSAGE

* REFERS TO REQUEST FOR RATIONALE WHICH LED WASHINGTON TO
CLASSIFY SA-3 SITES AS SUCH.

25X1

1	REBER: ACTION
2	BISSELL
3	
4	TIDWELL
✓ 5	LUNDAN
6	
7	
8	

25X1

25X1

TCO/CIA: Mr. Reber
TCO/DDP:

COORDINATING OFFICERS

TOP SECRET

O/DDI

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

25X1
25X1

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